



1952

HOOLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1952



Council Offices, Hoole Road, Hoole

HOOLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year ending

31st December, 1952



Administrative Staff :

Medical Officer of Health .. M. E. RUSSELL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health .. W. J. A. RUSSELL,
B.A., M.B., B.Ch.

Chief Sanitary Inspector N. H. BOWDLER,
M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E., Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector .. S. CLARKE, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Liverpool University Certificate for Sanitary Knowledge of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk N. DYMOND.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HOOLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure of presenting my Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1952.

The local statistics continue to be satisfactory and compare favourably with the National figures. A summary of the chief items is given below together with those for England and Wales and the smaller towns.

The Death Rate is 8.10 per 1,000 population compared with 14.51 in 1951. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.3 and for 160 smaller towns 11.2

The Birth Rate is 15.56 per 1,000 population compared with 15.07 in 1951. The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 15.30 and for 160 smaller towns 15.50.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 20.80 per 1,000 live births compared with 14.7 in 1951. The figure for England and Wales is 27.6 and that for 160 smaller towns 25.8.

Twenty cases of Whooping Cough and 39 cases of Measles were notified in 1952 compared with 45 and 56 respectively in 1951. 8 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 case of Poliomyelitis were notified and for the sixth consecutive year there was no case of Diphtheria. 5 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified compared with 7 in 1951.

5 mild cases of Food Poisoning were reported and the cause was traced to infected meat pies.

With the shadow of amalgamation with Chester over us, I think it would be interesting to compare the vital statistics for the year 1935—which was my first full year as your Medical Officer of Health—with those of 1952.

The area in acres was then 334. It is now 672.

The estimated population was then 5,985. It is now 9,253.

The number of inhabited houses was then 1,730. It is now 2,688.

The rateable value was £29,076 and the sum represented by 1d. rate was £121 3s. 0d.

The rateable value now is £52,252 and the sum represented by 1d. rate is £217 14s. 2d.

The Birth Rate was 27.56, but this figure includes the Births which took place in the old St. James' Hospital.

The Death Rate was 11.19—not very different from that of the present day.

During this time also the face of Hoole has changed.
 In 1935 there were 1,730 inhabited houses.
 In 1952 there were 2,688 inhabited houses, of which 429 have been built by the Council—a very creditable achievement for a District of this size.
 During 1952, 24 houses were completed under the Council's schemes and 7 by private enterprise, and at the end of the year the housing application register totalled 552.

I should like once again to express my appreciation of the support received from the Public Health and Highways Committee and the co-operation and assistance of the staff of the Public Health Department during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,
 Your obedient Servant,
 M. E. RUSSELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	672
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-1951	9,253
Number of Inhabited houses	2,688
Rateable Value	£52,252
Gross Product of 1d. Rate	£217 14s. 2d.

The District remains mainly residential in character. A large proportion of the population is engaged in Railway and Transport Services, in Distributive Trades and various industries at Shotton, Ellesmere Port and Helsby.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	67	68	135
Illegitimate	3	6	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	70	74	144

Birth Rate—15.56 per 1,000 population (15.07 in 1950).
 Birth Rate England and Wales 15.30 per 1,000 population.

Still Births.	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) 20.40.
 Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population 0.32.
 Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales—0.35.

Table of Comparable Birth Rates, 1943-52.

Year	No. of Births Hoole U.D.		Birth Rate Hoole U.D.		Birth Rate England & Wales	
1943	..	158	..	18.64	..	16.5
1944	..	178	..	20.90	..	17.6
1945	..	134	..	15.98	..	16.1
1946	..	181	..	20.77	..	19.1
1947	..	210	..	23.85	..	20.5
1948	..	157	..	17.53	..	17.9
1949	..	135	..	14.90	..	16.7
1950	..	152	..	16.67	..	15.8
1951	..	136	..	15.07	..	15.5
1952	..	144	..	15.56	..	15.3

INFANT MORTALITY.

During 1952 there were 3 deaths under 1 year in the Hoole Urban District.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live Births	..	20.8
In 1951 it was	.. .. .	14.7
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	.. .. .	27.6
Infant Mortality Rate for 160 smaller towns	.. .. .	25.8

Table of Comparable Infant Mortality Rates 1943-1952.

Rate per 1,000 live Births.

Year	Hoole U.D.		England & Wales	
1943	..	44.3	..	49
1944	..	28.0	..	46
1945	..	44.4	..	46
1946	..	60.7	..	43
1947	..	57.1	..	41
1948	..	25.4	..	34
1949	..	37.0	..	32
1950	..	Nil	..	29.8
1951	..	14.7	..	29.6
1952	..	20.8	..	27.6

DEATHS.

Total — 75. Males — 33. Females — 42.

Natural Increase in Population (excess of births over deaths) is 69.

Death Rate 8.10 per 1,000 population. (14.51 in 1951).

Death Rate—England and Wales—11.3 per 1,000 population.

Table of Comparable Death Rates 1943-1952.

Year	No. of Deaths in Hoole U.D.		Death Rate Hoole U.D.		Death Rate England & Wales	
1943	..	88	..	10.38	..	12.1
1944	..	100	..	11.17	..	11.6
1945	..	98	..	11.69	..	11.4
1946	..	89	..	10.21	..	11.5
1947	..	101	..	11.47	..	12.0
1948	..	83	..	9.26	..	10.8
1949	..	100	..	11.50	..	11.7
1950	..	100	..	10.97	..	11.6
1951	..	131	..	14.51	..	12.5
1952	..	75	..	8.10	..	11.3

Of the 75 deaths in the district—

30 were due to Heart Disease.

17 were due to Malignant Neoplasm.

Of the 75 deaths—

20 were over 80 years of age, and

46 were over 65 years of age.

42.7% of the deaths occurred in Public Institutions.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Number of persons dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth.

Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	0
Other Maternal Causes	..	..	..	..	..	0

Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1952.

				Males	Females
Tuberculosis—Respiratory System	..	..	..	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm—all sites	..	..	..	6	11
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	4	9
Diabetes	..	..	..	—	2
Coronary Disease—Angina	..	..	..	4	2
Hypertension with Heart Disease	..	..	..	1	—
Other Heart Diseases	..	..	..	1	9
Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	1	3
Influenza	..	..	..	1	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	—	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	3	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	..	2	—
Gastritis—Enteritis—Diarrhoea	..	..	..	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	2	—
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	—	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	..	..	..	4	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	1	—
Total	-			33	42

Natural Increase in Population (i.e., excess of births over deaths) for past 10 years is shown in the following table :—

Per 1,000 population.						
Year		Population		Hoole U.D.		England & Wales
1943	..	8,474	..	8.26	..	4.4
1944	..	8,500	..	9.1	..	6.0
1945	..	8,382	..	4.3	..	4.7
1946	..	8,711	..	10.5	..	7.6
1947	..	8,804	..	11.2	..	8.5
1948	..	8,956	..	8.2	..	7.1
1949	..	9,043	..	3.8	..	5.0
1950	..	9,113	..	5.7	..	4.2
1951	..	9,024	..	0.55	..	3.0
1952	..	9,253	..	7.46	..	4.0

Prevalence of, and control over infectious and other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1952.

Disease				Cases Notified		Deaths
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	8		—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	20		—
Measles	..	..	..	39		—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	5		1
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	1		1
Erysipelas	..	..	..	1		—
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	5		—
				79		2

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Scarlet Fever ..	12	16	15	8	8	26	13	3	17	8
Diphtheria ..	6	12	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia ..	11	9	6	5	10	3	3	3	4	5
Whooping Cough	6	21	9	13	2	46	25	37	45	20
Measles ..	10	9	116	148	39	105	74	54	56	39
Inf. Paralysis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puer. Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cere.-spinal fever	1	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—
Typh. & Para-typh.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during the year 1952.

		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	..	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

Poliomyelitis.

One case of Poliomyelitis occurred in a boy of 12 years. Unfortunately it was a severe type and ended fatally.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the area.

The following services are available.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Chemical and Bacteriological examination of water is carried out once yearly. Examination of milk and ice-cream are carried out regularly.

Throat swabs are examined in cases of suspected Diphtheria and any other tests necessary in investigating infectious disease are carried out as required.

The Public Health Laboratory Service which has been organised under the National Health Service Act, 1946, under the direction of the Medical Research Council has a Branch at Birkenhead. Here free bacteriological examinations of milk and water and other specimens are carried out for local authorities.

The Pathological Laboratories at the Chester Royal Infirmary and Chester City Hospital may also be used.

(b) Ambulance Services for Hoole are administered by the South-West Division in conjunction with the City of Chester. The service has been entirely satisfactory and ambulances are always available on request by authorised persons.

(c) Nursing Services are also administered by the South-West Division and have been appreciated by the residents. The District Nurse lives at 86 Faulkner Street, Hoole, and can be summoned by telephone.

The Health Visitors of the County Council also visit the homes of the district in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis Schemes.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The following were provided for Hoole by the Cheshire County Council :—

School Clinic. This was held every morning (except Wednesday) for the treatment of children with minor complaints.

School children with defective eyesight were examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon of the County Public Health Department who attended during the year. Dental treatment was given by appointment by the School Dental Surgeon. Medical Inspection of School children was carried out by the County Authority.

Ante-Natal Clinic. Is held on the second Thursday in each month. During the year 28 expectant mothers made 59 attendances.

The Post-Natal Clinic. Is held monthly on the fourth Thursday in each month. During the year 29 mothers made 56 attendances.

The County Dentist attends for ante-natal and post-natal mothers and for toddlers by appointment.

Infant Welfare Clinic. This is held every Tuesday. It is a very popular centre and is well attended.

During the year there were 155 new cases making total attendances of 1,787 in the 0—5 year groups.

Orthopaedic Clinic. Patients from Hoole attend at the Chester Royal Infirmary, where hospital treatment when required is carried out.

Venereal Diseases. Patients from this area are sent to the Chester Royal Infirmary where they receive specialised treatment.

(e) Hospitals.

The Hospitals in the Chester District are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and are administered by No. 13 Chester and District Hospital Management Committee.

Surgical cases and emergencies are dealt with at the Chester Royal Infirmary. Medical and Maternity cases are dealt with at the Chester City Hospital.

All Isolation Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board. The Isolation at Clatterbridge receives infectious cases for the Hoole Urban District.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

All Water in this district is supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The supply is constant and adequate for all needs. With the exception of 10 houses which are supplied from a standpipe, all the houses in the District have their water supplies directly from the works to the houses. A sample is taken from this District once yearly. The report on the examination which was entirely satisfactory was as follows :

Chemical Examination and Sample of Water.

In parts per Million of water—

Total Solid matter in solution	.. .. .	240.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	.. .. .	1.25
Nitrates	.. .. .	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	.. .. .	29.0
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80 degrees F.	.. .. .	0.57
Free and Saline Ammonia	.. .. .	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	.. .. .	0.06
Lead, Copper, Zinc	.. .. .	Nil
Microscopical Examination of the Sediment	.. .. .	Nil
Temporary Hardness	.. .. .	50.0
Permanent Hardness	.. .. .	40.0
pH. Value	.. .. .	7.0

The above Chemical Analysis is satisfactory.

Bacteriological Examination of Sample of Water.

Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on Agar plates, incubated at 20.22 degrees C. for 3 days	..	0 per c.c.
Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on Agar plates, incubated at 37.5 degrees C. for 2 days	..	1 per c.c.
Bacillus coli	.. .. .	Absent per 100 c.c.'s.

Report :—This is an excellent water.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The water carriage system is general in the District with the exception of 13 houses—10 of which have Elsan closets and 3 septic tanks.

The sewage is finally dealt with at the outfall works of the Chester City Council with whom this district has an agreement.

The Elsan closets are emptied once weekly.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse is made, two properly covered lorries being used for the purpose.

By arrangement with Chester R.D.C. tipping is carried out on their tip at Green Lane, Chester.

SALVAGE.

During the year the following materials were collected and sold for Salvage purposes :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	..	..	94	8	0	0	980	3	3
Rags	..	..	3	19	2	0	89	10	0
Bagging	..	..		4	3	26	1	17	5
String	..	..		4	0	18	1	18	7
Rubber	..	..		2	0	6	1	9	10
Lead	..	..		5	3	18	25	14	3
Aluminium	..	..		7	1	20	32	15	6
Copper	..	..		2	3	25	18	19	0
Brass	..	..		5	0	18	27	11	4
Iron	..	..	14	13	1	0	72	7	0
Kitchen Waste	..	..	12	7	3	0	39	12	5
							<hr/>		
							127	1	0
							19	£1,291	18
							<hr/>		
								7	

RODENT CONTROL.

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, a grant is made to local authorities equal to one half of the expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their functions under Part I. of the Act so far as not recovered thereunder, subject to certain conditions relating to organisation, methods, staffing and administrative procedure.

Private houses are treated free of cost but a charge is made in respect of the treatment of commercial and industrial premises.

One part-time operative is employed.

During the year a total of 194 inspections were made, as a result of which 17 premises were treated.

Two 'maintenance' and one 'test bait' treatments were carried out on the public sewers in the district. In the first 'maintenance' treatment 31 manholes were baited and partial takes were recorded at 8 points. On the second occasion, of the 38 manholes baited partial takes were observed at 3 points.

The regular sewer treatments over the past few years have considerably reduced the rat population in the area.

Schools.

The two Church Schools in the District have now been taken over by the Education Authority and various outstanding works relating to Sanitary defects have been carried out.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. Summary of Inspections and Action Taken.

NATURE AND PURPOSE OF INSPECTIONS	No.	Action taken and result			In Hand
		Informal	Formal	No. of cases in which nuisances abated or defects remedied	
Sanitary Defects, Housing Act, 1936, and Nuisances, &c., Public Health Act, 1936	73	29 Tel. calls 96 Letters	4 Stat. Notices 8	54	19
Unserviceable Dustbins	8	—	—	8 4 by Council 4 by Owners	—
Revisits to work in progress, etc.	200	—	—	—	—
Privies and Septic Tanks	2	—	—	—	—
Drainage Inspections and Tests (New Housing (Miscellaneous	14	—	—	—	—
Piggeries	5	—	—	—	—
Factories	2	—	—	—	—
Dairy Premises and Milk Shops	10	—	—	—	—
Butchers' Shops, Wet Fish Shops & Fried Fish and Chip Shops	3	—	—	—	—
Premises used for manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream	7	—	—	—	—
Infectious Disease—Disinfections	14	—	—	—	—
Rat Infestations—Inspections	1	—	—	—	—
Treatments	194	—	—	—	—
Schools	17	—	—	—	—
	2	—	—	—	—
	552	—	12	62	19

Factories Act 1937 and 1948.

Part 1 of the Act.

(1) Inspections.

PREMISES (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	15	7	Nil	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	3	3	3	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL		18	10	Nil	Nil	

(2) Cases in which Defects were found.

PARTICULARS (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	9	1	1	—	1	—	9
(a) Insufficient	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
(c) Not separate for sexes	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)							
TOTAL	60	1	1	Nil	1	Nil	60

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	65
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ..	259
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ..	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	61

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	49
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	Nil
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	3
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Premises.

Ice Cream.

Two applications for registration of premises under S. 14, Food & Drugs Act, 1938, were received during the year under review. The Register now shews :—14 premises registered for sale of ice-cream, two premises registered for manufacture and sale of ice-cream.

The cold mix method of manufacture is employed at one of the manufactories and the hot mix method at the other.

The premises were inspected periodically and where necessary advice was given with the object of improving the Bacteriological standard of the ice-cream.

Bacteriological Samples :—

Six (6) samples from different manufacturers were submitted for examination for cleanliness and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grades	..	1	2	3	4
No.	.. ..	6	2	0	1

Non-Faecal B. Coli present in 3 samples.

Other organisms absent.

The grading is based on decolourization of Methylene Blue within prescribed time limits, and those samples falling consistently within grades 3 and 4 are considered unsatisfactory. The presence of non-Faecal B. Coli is indicative of some degree of contamination arising during manufacture or storage.

Sausage and Preserved Foods :—

Five premises in the district are registered under S. 14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture and sale of sausage and potted meat. These were periodically inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Butchers', Wet Fish, Fried Fish and Chip Shops :—

Premises were systematically inspected and the general standard of cleanliness found to be satisfactory.

Milk Supply.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

The Register kept under the above Regulations shows the following entries :—

Distributors	.. ..	10
Dairy Premises	.. ..	1
Milk Shops	.. ..	2

There are three dairy farms within the district. These are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The dairy premises and milk shops were inspected periodically and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

The following licences were issued under the above regulations :—

Dealers' Licences					Number
(1)	T.T. Milk	..	..	..	4
(2)	Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	5

Supplementary Licences.

(1)	T.T. Milk	..	..	..	5
(2)	Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	6

Bacteriological Samples.

The results of the examination of five samples of pasteurised milk for compliance with the prescribed standards are shown in the following table :—

Test				Number	
				Passed	Failed
Methylene Blue	..	..	..	5	—
Phosphatase	..	..	..	5	—

Note :—(1) The “Phosphatase Test” denotes efficient pasteurisation.

(2) The “Methylene Blue Test” assesses keeping qualities and cleanliness.

Unsound Food.

The undermentioned articles of food were voluntarily surrendered by their owners in order that they might be destroyed or so disposed of as to prevent them from being used for human consumption :—

Article.	Reason for Condemnation.			
7 tins cooked ham (74 lbs. 5 ozs.)	Putrefaction
2 tins luncheon meat (8 lbs.)	Damaged
36 tins sliced ham (13 lbs. 8 ozs.) Old Stock	Discolouration

Food Poisoning.

Five cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year. Two of them were isolated cases of unknown cause and the other three were part of an outbreak totalling 85 cases in the Hoole, Bebington, Port Sunlight and Ellesmere Port areas. The outbreak was caused by the consumption of meat pies manufactured by a Lancashire firm and since the organism salmonella enteriditis jena was isolated from the faeces of 4 of the cases and from a sewer swab taken at the Manufacturer's premises it is probable that the pies were contaminated by someone associated with their production although this was not definitely established.

Food Adulteration.

Sampling and analysis of food and drugs under the Adulteration Provisions of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, is carried out by the Cheshire County Council and the following report has been kindly furnished by Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council :—

List of Samples obtained in the Hoole Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1952 :—

Name of Sample				Number Obtained		Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality	
Black Puddings	..	..	..	1	..	..
Cod Liver Oil Capsules	..	..	..	1	..	..
Fish Cakes	..	..	..	1	..	..
Jam, Blackcurrant	..	..	..	1	..	..
Liver Sausage	..	..	..	1	..	..
Meat Paste (Veal and Ham)	..	..	..	1	..	..
Milk	..	..	..	11	..	..	1
Pepper	..	..	..	1	..	..
Saccharin Tablets	..	..	..	1	..	..
Sage and Onion Stuffing	..	..	..	1	..	..
Sauce	..	..	..	1	..	..
				21			1

Report :—

With the exception of one milk, which was found to be 1.4 per cent. naturally deficient in non-fatty solids, all the samples were certified to be of genuine quality.

The application of the Freezing Point (Hortvet) test proved that this one milk was of **abnormal** quality and, therefore, all samples were in fact genuine.

~~6138~~
6545.

47-52.